



Volume 28

An ARCEC Monthly Publication

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Counterpoise Editor - Sue Robins AF6LJ

Get Ready For Field Day

By Sue Robins AF6LJ

With early Summer comes Field Day, just about as early as you can get in summer for that matter. This year the ARRL Field Day exercise will be held on the 22nd and 23rd of June. Preparations have already begun for members of the ARCEC who are involved in the set-up process. We have a group working on our 40 two element yagi ahead of time to speed on site assembly. I have a repaired rotor cable ready for service and people are coming together with all manner of gear to stock our field day installation. Join us at our June meeting as we firm up our Field Day 2019 plan and become part of an exciting and fun event.



ARCEC Repeater Frequencies

2 Meter Repeater	220 MHZ Repeater	440 MHZ Repeater
TX 146.475	TX 222.480	TX 440.900
RX 147.420	RX 224.080	RX 445.900
Offset .945	Offset 1.6	Offset 5.00
PL 107.2	PL 107.2	PL 107.2



Sue Robins, AF6LJ Shows Us Her Shack

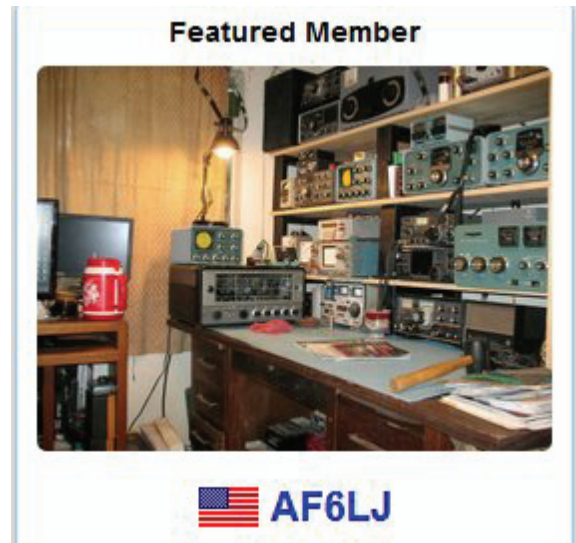


Above; left top LG spectrum analyzer HP frequency counter, HP modulation analyzer HP signal generator, HP spectrum analyzer. Tek Scope, HP power supplies, another counter and the HP DMM.

Picture to the right; QRZ.com featured my shack. That is the only forum where you find the second most prolific poster, also one of the most popular posters on QRZ who is also banned, that would be me.

The picture directly to the right shows Sue measuring the delay through a section of coaxial cable.

Antennas include; the DXE receiving loop, an 80/40 meter doublet fed with window line. There is also a 4 element yagi for 2 meters fed with hardline. There is also a GPS antenna that will be hooked up to my frequency standard next month.



Show Us Your Shack

AF6LJ Shows Us Her Shack

I generally dislike talking about myself, my projects are a different matter. Talking about my shack is talking about a large part of my life. My shack isn't just about amateur radio but it's also an RF lab that is in the process of expanding, and where I go to get away from humanity and all its baggage. Long before amateur radio I was repairing instruments, consumer electronics and miscellaneous radio gear of all types. This was a good way to make some ***Walking Around Money***, and keep my skills honed. Half of the test gear you see in the pictures came to me in "non working" condition. The other half I bought working such as the Tektronix 466 scope and the HP-3478 DMM and the frequency standard in the background (beige box next to the scope) Other items like the HP-8901 and the HP-8569 I had to repair. Repairing gear is a good cheap way to acquire thousands of dollars worth of gear for a fraction of the cost. As with most things in life the more you know, the less you have to spend if you are really motivated. This is the second time I have set out to build a decent RF lab, the first time I could generate, measure, see, or count signals from DC to 12 GHZ. In Sue's RF Laboratory 2.0 we are going for 22 GHZ and beyond.

In the past I have given presentations on the gear I have repaired, and restored. Fixing ham gear is fun and not as hard core critical as fixing test gear can be at times. The Icom IC-756 is a rarity when it comes to ham gear here, I bought it new in 1997. An odd thing about that radio; I find the RX audio to be hard to listen to, the radio is one of the first to have a digital signal processor in the RX and TX signal paths. On RX the audio has a vaguely raspy sound on SSB, CW and \$TTY. On AM and FM it is fine. The other gear the Swans and the Heath gear came to me broken, with the exception of the Swan 400, that works perfectly and I enjoy using it. I love what I call **Full Contact Amateur Radio**; what I mean by this is simple. A Swan 400 is not plug and play, you don't turn it on and start talking like you do with the Icom that sits below. These radios have to be tuned and carefully tuned at that, or they won't sound good or they will fail. Gear from the 50s, 60s, and 70s have a personality, and their own quirks. This makes running them fun, and running is a part of the process. Just ask anybody who has run one of the Swan tube type radios.

I have given a presentation on my SB-220 lovingly known as Oscar, that project isn't finished yet. I have more work to do to it yet, but I need a fill-in amplifier or I will end punishing my 75-Meter rag chewing buddies. There is more gear in storage waiting for attention and to be put on the air. I also have stashed away a few pieces of gear that will be upcoming projects, three of which are started and waiting on funds to continue their repair. There is also a half dozen pieces of HP and Tektronix, and other gear waiting for attention. Besides all this, I really enjoy helping out other hams when I can. Knowledge is cheap and should be handed out freely to all who has a hunger for it. *****

Ham Radio Volunteers Needed to Support The SD100 The Afternoon and Evening of Friday, June 7, 2019

If you are looking for a radio training opportunity, volunteers are needed the afternoon and evening of Friday, 6/7/19 to support communications at Aid Stations along the course of the San Diego 100 Mile Ultra Endurance Run. Although this is not an ARES, ACS, or SWREACT event, the event provides back country operating experience under tough conditions in the Cuyamaca and Laguna Mountain Ranges. Some Aid Stations are accessible by paved road; other Aid Stations require a high-clearance vehicle. For runner safety, Ham radio volunteers help track the bib numbers of runners as they pass through Aid Stations that have no reliable cell phone service. Some shifts start on Friday, June 7 at 1400 and end by midnight. Other shifts start later and are overnight shifts. We assign about five hams to each Aid Station.

To volunteer, or for more information, contact K6RJF.ROB@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Rob
K6RJF

Next Month's Meeting Field Day Planning

WAMO Net Rebirth

Steve AJ6IT has brought the Wednesday WAMO Net back from its long hibernation. The WAMO Net is a controlled net for members, and non-members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. The net meets every Wednesday starting with early check-ins at 7:45 PM Pacific time. Come and join us for the WAMO net.

Club Shirts & Jackets

We have green, pocketed 2013 Field Day club shirts available in sizes S (2), M (1), and L (8) for \$10 each. Our standard Club Shirts have no pocket and are in sizes M (10), L (4), 2XL (7), 3XL (4), 4XL (5) for \$10 each. Sizes are limited to stock on hand.

Lined Windbreaker Jackets are also available in sizes L (1) and XL (7) for \$24 each. These have side pockets with snap closure.

ARRL Field Day 2019

June 22-23



Support Our Local Businesses



Membership Badges & Pins

All members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon who might wish to obtain a membership badge can contact Dell Awards and place an order with them. They are our current preferred source for these badges, and have our logo and design on file and ready to create a custom badge for members. Current price is \$7.50 per badge and they have indicated that there is normally a 3 business day turnaround time. These are quality badges made by a long established company, so place yours on order soon. They can be reached at the below address and phone number, and be sure to mention you saw this blurb in the Counterpoise newsletter too.

Dell Awards

7949 Broadway

Lemon Grove, CA 91945

(619) 469-2100

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am-5:30pm

Sat 10am-1pm

Sun - Closed

Club Pins Now Available:

They have arrived! A limited number of club pins are now here and can be obtained from our Treasurer at most club functions. These are 1" diameter pins with a rubber clutch pin on rear. You can now show the world your support of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, and for the small cost of \$3.00 each too. Get them while they are available.





The **AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF EL CAJON**^{Inc.}
WA6BGS

Post Office Box Fifty, El Cajon California 92022

Founded 1960 ~ Incorporated 1976

Please fill out this form and then see options at bottom for submitting to the club

Date of application: ___ / ___ / ___

Amount Paid: \$ _____ Cash Check Check # _____

Membership Type: Individual (\$20/year) Family* (\$35/year)

Membership Status: New Renewal Returning Member

Call Sign First Name _____ Last Name _____

If a previous member, what was your WAMO number?

ARRL Member: Yes No

License Class: Technician General Extra Other

Email Address (required) _____

Phone Number (optional) _____

**Use another sheet of paper to add Family members and please include the following information:*

First Name, Last Name, Call Sign (if any), License Class, Wamo Number (if any), & Email Address.

Submitting this form:

To submit this form, you can mail it to:

**Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022**

-OR-

Bring it to the next club meeting on the second Thursday of each month. You can find the date and location by getting online at www.wa6bgs.us which is the club website. Check it out for the most current information regarding the club.

Cash Payments - Get a receipt from the Club Treasurer. Please make all checks payable to AMATEUR RADIO CLUB of EL CAJON, Incorporated. Receipts for payments by check will be sent by email or regular mail by the Club Treasurer.

Members with an FCC Call Sign are full members with voting privileges. Members without an FCC Call Sign are Associate members without voting privileges.

YOUR DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE: Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc. Is a 501 C 7 Corporation. Donations are NOT tax deductible.

Email address and phone number are to allow club officers to contact members regarding club business and information of interest.